

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Previously Presented): A method, in a server computer, for chaining applications, comprising:

receiving, at a chaining module, a request from a client computer for a service and an option associated with the chaining module, wherein the option identifies the service as a series of applications;

executing the series of applications in order and passing the output of each application to the input of the next application in the series; and

returning a result of the service to the client computer.

2. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the service is registered and associated with a name in a properties file.

3. (Original): The method of claim 2, wherein the option is specified in the properties file.

4. (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the series of applications comprises a first application and a second application and the step of executing the series of applications comprises:

executing the first application;

passing the output of the first application to the input of the second application;

and

executing the second application.

5. (Original): The method of claim 4, wherein the step of executing the series of applications further comprises:

returning the output of the second application.

6. (Original): The method of claim 4, wherein the first application is a customer verification application.

7. (Original): The method of claim 6, wherein the second application is a language translation engine.
8. (Original): The method of claim 4, wherein the first application and the second application are language translation engines.
9. (Previously Presented): An apparatus, in a server computer, for chaining applications, comprising:
- means for receiving, at a chaining module, a request from a client computer for a service and an option associated with the chaining module, wherein the option identifies the service as a series of applications;
  - means for executing the series of applications in order and passing the output of each application to the input of the next application in the series; and
  - means for returning a result of the service to the client computer.
10. (Previously Presented): The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the service is registered and associated with a name in a properties file.
11. (Original): The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the option is specified in the properties file.
12. (Original): An apparatus for chaining applications, comprising:
- a first application;
  - a second application;
  - a chaining module, wherein the chaining module receives an option that identifies a series of applications comprising the first application and the second application, executes the first application, passes the output of the first application to the input of the second application, and executes the second application.
13. (Original): The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the option is specified in a properties file.

14. (Original): The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the chaining module returns the output of the second application.
15. (Original): The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the first application is a customer verification application.
16. (Original): The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the second application is a language translation engine.
17. (Original): The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the first application and the second application are language translation engines.
18. (Original): The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the first application and the second application implement an interface.
19. (Original): The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the chaining module implements the interface.
20. (Previously Presented): A computer program product, in a computer readable medium, for chaining applications in a server computer, comprising:
- instructions for receiving, at a chaining module, a request from a client computer for a service and an option associated with the chaining module, wherein the option identifies the service as a series of applications;
  - instructions for executing the series of applications in order and passing the output of each application to the input of the next application in the series; and
  - returning a result of the service to the client computer.
21. (New): A method, in a server computer, for chaining applications, the method comprising:
- receiving, at a chaining module, a request from a requesting application for a service and an option associated with the chaining module, wherein the option identifies the service by a service name;

receiving a properties file, wherein the properties file associates the service name with a series of applications;

issuing a request from the chaining module to each application within the series of applications, in order, and passing an output of each application to an input of the next application in the series until an output of a last application in the series of applications is received by the chaining module, wherein the output of the last application in the series is a result of the service; and

returning the result of the service to the requesting application.